

KENYA MUSEUM SOCIETY



# TRACKER

March 2019



KMS trip to Kantis palaeontology site  
– photo by Narinder Heyer (see p. 13)

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## Kenya Museum Society News

### **Tribute to Yolanda Vaz: A longtime Member of Kenya Museum Society (March 2009 – Jan 2019)** by her daughter, Margaret Vaz

Yolanda's father Monsieur Antonio Francisco de, Almeida arrived in Tanganyika from Goa in 1916. He worked for the British colonial government through two world wars in the King's African rifles, being awarded the MBE in 1954. His work with the veterinary department took him all over Tanganyika including to Tabora, Kigoma, Dodoma and Iringa. He opened the first veterinary department in Dar-es-salaam in 1918. As we now know, the First World War in Africa was brutal and he witnessed many atrocities.

Yolanda (age 5) and her brothers were sent to boarding school in Goa (under Portuguese rule until 1961) and then British-ruled Bombay. The Second World War meant long periods away from home spending time with their autocratic maternal grandmother and their mother's brother Dr. Juliao Menezes, author of *Goa's Freedom Struggle*. The Portuguese declared him a persona non grata after rallies to get rid of the Portuguese colonial government. Yolanda and her brothers often carried seditious material from his printing press in Bombay into Goa. The Menezes Mansion in Goa is a listed historical site.

Her parents were founding members of the Goan Institute in Dar-es-salaam. They finally settled on a cattle farm in Mboa Maji (place of good waters) 10 Km across the ferry in Dar-es-salaam. As their only daughter, Yolanda would accompany her mother and father to Government House. During this time, Tanzania was emerging and Mama Maria, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's wife, and Yolanda's mother Josephina had become good friends. These strong influences helped shape the Yolanda whom many came to admire, respect and love. She could be headstrong, and hated to lose an argument.

Yolanda married a Kenyan and in 1961 they moved to Mombasa. Kenya was also making its transition towards independence. The white-dominated world would be a test of her patience but she never backed down. Eventually, Nairobi became her home and she loved living very centrally across from the Serena. She loved to walk and that is what she did, walking to work across the

park, and her daily walks to the United Kenya Club where she would peruse the newspapers and periodicals before going to St Paul's University chapel.

I learned to love exploring Nairobi on foot with long walks to the Arboretum, Uhuru Park, Central Business District, the Nairobi National Museum, various Nairobi markets, and along the way I got to know the people that my mum helped, including the street children of Nairobi, as well as her Mama's at the Holy Family cathedral, the newspaper man. There was never a day when someone would not stop us in the streets of Nairobi and tell me how Mum had helped them, either through getting a job, or through her genuine care and compassion. She held many administrative positions and was a life-long learner. She was actively involved in St Paul's University Chapel, where she is fondly remembered. Yolanda tried to live her faith. She hated injustice, and did not see barriers but tried to build bridges. She was a friend to all, irrespective of race, colour or religion. She was always very independent, until dementia started to change her ability to live on her own.

She left Kenya for the last time in 2016. Her memory deteriorated very rapidly after that. We, her 3 living children and grandchildren, were very blessed that she remained such a beautiful spirit till the end. Always reaching out to others. She hated waste and recycled, reused long before many of us understood the importance of preserving the earth for others. She had the true African spirit of always sharing, and keeping an open door. Her legacy is that she has touched so many people in her lifetime with her caring generous spirit. I loved traveling with her, as her winning smile opened many doors. I have kept up her memberships in The Kenya Museum Society and Nature Kenya as she strongly believed in learning about the environment, culture and preservation of heritage. Yolanda passed away on January 21st 2019. Dementia has become a world-wide problem. Research shows that we need to keep our minds and bodies active and engaged. In many respects, Yolanda did not deteriorate as rapidly as others have. We believe that her walking was key.

*KMS Council offer sincere condolences to Margaret and other members of Yolanda's family on their own behalf and that of other members who remember Yolanda*

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF KMS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WED, 8 May 2019

FROM HONORARY SECRETARY, DR. MARLA STONE

You are kindly asked to attend the **Annual General Meeting** of the Kenya Museum Society **Wednesday, 8 May, at 6:30 pm at the Ford Hall**. See the agenda below. Wine, juice and bitings will be provided from 6:15 pm. At 5:30 there will be a **tour of the KMS-funded Beekeeping Exhibition** in the museum.

Any member who wishes to **nominate officers or other Council members** is encouraged to contact the KMS office by email or phone by **Wed, 1 May**. Self nominations are welcome, but they must be submitted in writing and seconded by the signature of another KMS full member.

Any member who wishes to submit a resolution at the Annual General Meeting must do so by sending it in writing by Wednesday, 4 April, to the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Marla Stone, via the KMS email ([info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org)).

Please **confirm your attendance or apology** on or before **Friday, 5 May** by phone (020 3743808, 0724 255299 or wireless 020 2339158) or by email ([info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org)). If your membership has lapsed or will soon lapse you may renew prior to the beginning of the meeting. Though all categories of members are encouraged to attend, only paid-up members, exclusive of student members, visitor members, NMK special category members, and KMS staff, will be able to vote on any issues.

The agenda for the AGM will be as follows:

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Approval of Minutes of 2018 AGM
3. Chairperson's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Report of grants and other monetary awards made in 2018
6. New Business
  - a. Election of officers and other Council members
    - b. Appointment of auditor
    - c. Additional new business
7. Adjournment

## **Trips and events**

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***By participating in KMS events, you are helping to support projects of the National Museums of Kenya.***

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### ***Longer Trips (more than 2 nights)***

#### **Marich Pass and Turkwell Gorge**

**19-22 April, 2019**

The Easter trip is to this incredibly beautiful part of West Pokot. We shall stay at the simple but charming Marich Pass Field Studies Centre. It is strung along the Maruny River, and surrounded by bush full of birds. In the distance you see Mt Sekerr and Mt Koh.

#### **Programme**

**Day 1** – Depart Nairobi at 7 am. Picnic lunch en route, stop in Kapenguria and visit the Kapenguria Museum. There is a fine exhibition on the trial of the Kapenguria Six during the Mau Mau period. Arrive at Marich. There may be time for a pleasant walk along the Maruny River. Dinner.

**Day 2** – Take the road towards Turkwell Gorge. Visit the Turkwell Power Plant (permission yet to be confirmed). Lunch and a swim at the Club in Turkwell.

**Day 3** – Spend the day in the area. Visit a local market in one of the nearby “towns” and the Wei Wei Irrigation Scheme.

If time permits a walk in the area around the Field Study Centre.

**Day 4** – After an early breakfast depart for Nairobi.

**Cost: Ksh 23,800** [The menu at Marich Pass has some gaps so I will carry some extra tasty things. Hence the small increase in price – Narinder]

**Included:** FB for 3 full days, guide fees, tips.

**Not Included:** transport, picnic lunch on day 1 and 4, entry fee to Kapenguria Museum (if any)

**Bookings:** 0724 255299 or [info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org)

## **Payment Options:**

1. M-PESA PayBill Business no: 400800, Account no: 6571570019

2. A cheque payable to Kenya Museum Society

3. **Direct Bank Transfer;**

Bank: Commercial Bank of Africa

Account Name: KENYA MUSEUM SOCIETY

Bank Account: 657 157 0019; Bank Code: 07; Branch: Westlands; Branch Code: 004

Bank Swift code: CBAFKENX

## **The Tugen and Cherangani Hills**

**May 1-5 (4 nights)**

### **The Tugen and Cherangani Hills**

**1-5 May, 2019 (4 nights)**

This is one of the most fascinating but lesser known parts of Kenya. On this 4-night trip we head beyond Nakuru towards the Tugen Hills. Parts of the hills are heavily forested. The road then plunges towards Kerio Valley, giving magnificent views. The valley includes Lake Kamnarok, Rimoi Park, Chebloch Gorge and Torok Falls. The dramatic Elgeyo Escarpment is on our left as we climb into the Cherangani Hills, home of many of Kenya's marathon and middle distance runners. Kerio Valley may not have much game but it has a superb birdlife.

In Iten, we shall stay at Kerio View Hotel. This is a Swiss chalet-style hotel overlooking Kerio Valley. Kerio Valley is the best place in Kenya for this sport. It is also the hotel where the famous runners stay. St Patrick's School in Iten has produced a stream of famous runners.

## **Programme:**

**Day 1:** Drive to the Tugen Hills. Visit a small museum near the site where the fossils of the 5-6 million old hominid Orrorin Tugens is were unearthed in 2001, making it the oldest hominid ever found in Kenya. Picnic lunch. We reach Sego late afternoon. There may be time for a birdwalk around the lodge or just swim and relax on the rooftop garden with its 180 degree view of the Elgeyo Escarpment. Dinner at Sego.

**Day 2:** Visit Chebloch Gorge and possibly Lake Kamnarok or drive high up into the Cherenganis. Picnic lunch. Dinner at Sego.

**Day 3:** Drive to Iten. Visit the 'stadium' where many runners can be seen on their morning run. Drive into the higher Cherenganis. The farms give way to forest and the landscape is beautiful. This is a popular area for hiking. Picnic lunch.

**Day 4:** After breakfast head to Baringo. We stay at the beautiful and rather expensive Tumbili Cliffs Lodge. Evening birdwalk. A night star tour if the sky is clear.

**Day 5:** After breakfast we depart for Nairobi. Lunch stop in Nakuru.

**Cost: Ksh 34,600** per person sharing. Single room supplement available on request.

**Included:** Half board for 3 days, full board in Baringo (please carry your own picnic lunches for the days 1-3). There may be a small charge for the star gazing.

**Not Included:** Transport, entry to Tugen Museum, picnic lunches, boat trip in Baringo.

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### **Off- peak Masai Mara**

**May 24 – 26**

**Details to follow**

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### **Turkana**

**8 – 17 June**

The KMS annual trip to this amazing part of Northern Kenya.

### **Programme**

**Day 1** – Overnight at Archers Post

**Day 2 and 3** – Stay at South Horr. It will include a walk in the town, drive around the area and evening sundowners in the dry river bed.

**Day 4** – Loiyangalani. Late afternoon visit to the desert Museum. Sundowners overlooking the Lake.



**Day 5 and 6** – Arrive at the Museum’s archaeological site in Koobi Fora. Guided tour of the Koobi Fora Museum. Evening bird walk along the lakeshore.

**Day 7** – Visit the Petrified Forest, drive through this amazing desert to North Horr, an interesting oasis settlement in the desert. A walk along the shallow streams and look for endemic bird species.

**Day 8** – Overnight camp in the Chalbi Desert under an awesome night sky.

**Day 9** – Stay in Marsabit. If time permits an afternoon walk in the town.

**Day 10** – Drive to Nairobi (it’s tarmac all the way)

**Accommodation:** Both camping and banda options available throughout. Members pay for whatever they choose; camping is usually Ksh 500 and Bandas Ksh 1,000

**Transport:** In comfortable land cruisers that sit 6 persons

**Included:** All meals provided for 9 days. All camping equipment, including mattress and pillow, provided but you pay your own camp/banda fee.

**Not included:** Lunch on day 10, park entry to Sibiloi National Reserve.

**Cost will be forwarded to you as soon as we receive it.**

➤➤ **The trip was originally advertised from 8 -16 June. If anyone had made a flight booking that clashes with 17 June, kindly let us know.**

### *Day Outings*

**DAY OUTING - HELLS GATE NATIONAL PARK – GORGE WALK**  
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

***Do you have strong legs, arms ... strong heart and most importantly a will to conquer... its hot its sweaty and its great fun!***

Come join us on this walking expedition and enjoy the experience.

Hells Gate National Park in Naivasha is a UNESCO world heritage site. It is situated on the south of Lake Naivasha, north west of Nairobi. Approximately a 2 hour drive from Nairobi.

“ A walk on the Wild side “ – named for the intense geothermal activity within its boundaries, the national park has specular scenery, including volcanic towers, hot springs, geysers and towering cliffs. The park has historically been the home to the endangered Lammergeyer vultures. A wonderful opportunity to see Hyrax, Klipspringer antelope and Chanlers mountain Reed buck to mention but a few of the magnificent animals that make the park their home.

The gorge that runs through the heart of the park is a wide deep valley hemmed in by sheer rusty – hued rock walls. The climb into and out of the gorge is a challenge and not for the faint hearted, promising an experience of enriching wonderful magical secrets. It is an approximate 3 hour walk from one end to the other. ***This walk is tough, meandering through rocks, cliffs, climbing over boulders, it promises to thrill, a challenge is beckoning!***

**Note:** We leave from the Museum office at 6.30 am and plan on leaving Naivasha by 2 PM to arrive back in Nairobi around 4 PM. We will travel in a 16 seater comfortable bus.

**Not suitable for children under 10.**

**Charges:-**

**KMS Members:** Ksh 2,200 per person

**Guests** : Ksh 2,500 per person

**Included:** transport and KWS Rangers

**Excluding park entry fee,** payable at the gate on arrival.

**Park Entry charges:-**

|                        |                         |                              |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Citizen Adult Kshs 300 | Resident Adult Kshs 600 | Non- Resident Adult S \$ 26  |
| Citizen Child Ksh 250  | Resident Child Kshs 300 | Non- Resident Child US \$ 17 |

**YOU NEED TO:**

1. Carry your personal identification card/document.

2. Wear good comfortable walking shoes.
3. Carry lots of drinking water.
4. Bring your picnic lunch and snacks.
5. Bring a camera.
6. Bring sun block and a hat.

### **Day Outings:**

#### **Guided tour of the Jain Temple**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

The Jain Temple is a sacred place of worship for the Jains.

It is the abode of the Tirthankaras, the omniscient beings or realised souls who propounded the Jain philosophy and its way of life.

Do not miss this opportunity to come and learn more about this philosophy and how it is articulated in the rituals you will observe in the temple.

**Suitable for children above 8 years.**

### **Charges:-**

**KMS Members: Ksh 800 per person**

**Member Child: Ksh 600**

**Guests: Ksh 1,000 per person**

**Guest Child: Ksh 800**

### **Included:**

- A briefing of the Jain philosophy
- Guided tour of the temple
- Donation to the community

### **Required:**

- Decent dressing (not tight clothing, no leather or other animal accessories)
- No eating or chewing in the temple

## **Karura Forest Day trip, 9am to 12:00 noon**

**Saturday 27 April 2019**



The Karura Forest Reserve is an urban upland forest on the outskirts of Nairobi. This remarkable geographical location and natural resource is one of the largest gazetted forests in the world fully within a city limit. It covers an area of about 1,000 ha (2,500 ac) and today is a shining example of how country-based corporate social responsibility and

individual philanthropy can serve to secure and protect a country's natural resources.

It is the perfect place to get your muscles moving and blood pumping as it offers eco-friendly opportunities for visitors to enjoy a leafy green respite from the hustle and bustle of the city. One can walk, jog, or simply sit quietly and experience the serenity of nature in all its diversity.

The forest has several historical sites and areas of special interest, which include:

- a 15-metre waterfall
- an old chimney incinerator – used by the Central Bank for the burning of decommissioned currency up until the mid-1990's
- an abandoned stone quarry pond, now called Lily Lake
- caves which are considered sacred by many and steeped in Kenyan history (they were formerly used by the Mau-Mau freedom fighters as hideouts during the struggle for Independence)
- patches of bamboo
- marshlands that attract bird life including winter migrants from Europe and Asia
- Serene Groves of secondary and primary indigenous trees.

*10 Tracker March 2019*

The forest is also where Professor Wangari Maathai (late leader of the Green Belt Movement and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate) carried out a much-publicised campaign for saving the forest from developers who tried to grab large portions of the north of the central section of the forest. The forest became a symbol of the fight against land grabbing in Kenya.

The tour includes:

- Guide fees & tip
- A guided tour of the forest including the waterfalls and caves
- A talk on the heritage of Wangari Maathai
- Birdwatching
- An opportunity to purchase trees from the nursery within the forest.

Charges

KMS Members Kshs 700

Non Members Kshs 900

Excluded: Picnic Lunch, entrance fees and transport.

Optional: Tree planting

Mpesa Paybill, Business no: 400800, Account no: 6571570019

RSVP: 0724 255299, 0780 755231, 2339158 or [info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org)

Entrance fees

Citizen's kshs 100

Resident's kshs 200

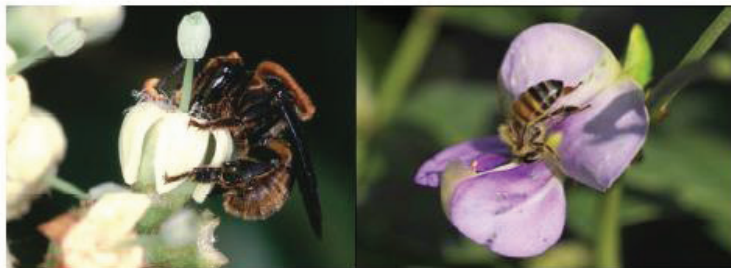
Non-residents kshs 600

Please carry water in reusable plastic bottles.



*Kenya Museum Society and Muthaiga Country Club*

## **Bee Pollinator for Biodiversity Conservation and Economic Development**



Did you know that one third of our global food supply is pollinated by bees and without bees, humans wouldn't have very much to eat?

*Join us and learn the economic value of bee pollination, their role in nutrition & food security, cultural diversity in beekeeping practices and the paradigm shift in beekeeping in Kenya*

### **Prof. Mary Gikungu**

Bee Specialist and Pollination Ecologist, Director, National Repository and Research  
National Museums of Kenya

## **Saturday, 13 April 2019**

**Muthaiga Country Club**

**Bitings & bar 6.30 pm, Talk 7.00 pm**

**Cost: Ksh 3,300 Talk, Canapes & Dinner  
Child Ksh 2,600**

**Ksh 1,500 Talk & Canapes only  
Child Ksh 900**

**Note: an extra Ksh 500 is charged to members and guests without a booking**

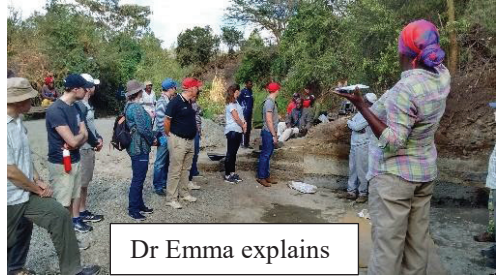
**Bookings: 0724 255299, 2339158 or [info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org)**

**Payment: Safaricom M-Pesa Paybill, Business no: 400800, Account no: 6571570019**

## Account of a past KMS trip: To the Kantis palaeontology dig

by Jill Ghai (Photos\* by Narinder Hyer, others by author)

If you would like to see what an archaeological dig really looks like, and do it without having to suffer the inconvenience of driving long distances on rough roads, Kenya's newest site offer the possibility. But, if you did not join the KMS trip on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, you will have to wait for a while.



The team from NMK spend about a month each year excavating at the Kantis site, near Ongata Rongai. They have been working there since 2009. The site was drawn to the attention of the NMK by the land owner there, who had seen TV documentaries on archaeology in KenChya and suddenly realized the possible significance of bones he and his friends used to see on their walks to school, years before.

Each year, the team marks out a section of the river bed, and painstakingly scrapes away at the layers with chisels, screwdrivers and hammers, to identify fossils. The bits of earth are then sieved to remove dust and checked to ensure no fossilised relic has escaped their eagle eyes.



Why the river bed? Because they think that many of the

remains came from bodies carried down by the river, and then stopping and sinking and eventually fossilising in a lake that used to be there, accounting for a concentration of fossils.



Most Kenyan palaeontological sites are in the Rift Valley. Comparing the fossils and the environment with those Rift Valley sites is one interesting aspect of the Kantis site.



Finds: hippo teeth\*

The fossils found are about 3.5 million years old.

The team has found many animal bones: in 2016 they found almost a whole hippo skeleton. This year they have found part of an antelope horn, a giraffe leg bone, many hippo teeth, among others. The finds long predate *homo sapiens* (who first walked the earth a mere 200,000 years ago.) But the



Finds: fossil giraffe bone in plaster

team found teeth of a baby and a child early human some years ago.\* The earliest human relics found in Kenya (in 2000) were in Baringo (about 6 million years old).

The team's finds are taken to Nairobi, where they are cleaned and catalogued, to be used for research purposes. Fragile items may be encased in plaster to ensure they arrive intact.

All these nuggets of fact are derive from the excellent summary given by Dr Emma Mbua, who is in charge of the dig, to the assembled company of KMS members (a medium sized bus load of us). The usual horrendous traffic between Nairobi and Ongata Rongai had not begun by the time we left the museum around 7.30. The drive was comfortable with only the last bit at all rough, but in no way in the bush.

We watched some actual digging (put on for our benefit because the team was packing up that day before the rains). Some younger participants were able to try their hands at the painstaking digging, and one even got to pull out a hippo tooth that had been left tantalisingly sticking out of the back of the excavation site.



Immediately beside the actual site is a very pleasant garden, with facilities like decent toilets (the sort of place that is used for weddings etc), to which we repaired for picnic lunch. This feather bedded exhibition was generally

reckoned well worth it. Watch the *Tracker* for a possible repeat next year!

\* <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/03/160324082828.htm>

**KMS Gift Shop**  
**Open daily 9.00am to 5.30pm**

**New Stock at the Kenya Museum Society Gift Shop**



***Have you been to the revamped KMS Gift Shop at the Nairobi Museum?***

This is the place to be, if you are looking to do an early Easter holiday shopping or are looking for some unique gift items, jewellery, bags, books about Kenya and East Africa, souvenirs...

Your purchase supports the National  
Kenya as well as the  
some of the items are made.



Museums of  
communities where

➤For non-members (or those who have forgotten their cards at home), you can go to the shop without paying the museum entry fee.

➤And you can come into the shp from the museum, and return to the museum.

## About or at the National Museums of Kenya

### Notice of Temporary Closure of Museum

The National Museum will be closed for maintenance from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March (inclusive of both dates).

The Snake Park and Botanical Gardens will remain open from 8.30 – 5 during this period.

### Events and Exhibitions

#### Shujaa Exhibition at the Nairobi National Museum



*If you have not had a chance to see this exhibition now is the time!*

Extended due to public interest, Shujaa Stories: A digital exhibition of Kenyan legends 1400s to early 1900s, will be **open to the public until July 2019**.

#MyHeritageOfSplendor  
#TwendeMakavazi

**PS:** Shujaa post cards are now available in the KMS Gift Shop @Ksh250

➤KMS plans a guided tour round this exhibition.

# New Exhibition at the Nairobi National Museum

## Swahili People and Their Culture

By Fatma Issa Holm

**8<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

Daily, 8.30 am to 5.30 pm

Creativity Gallery, Nairobi National Museum

Fatma Issa Holm was born in 1960 in Lamu, Kenya and lives in Aurskog Holand, Norway. She exhibits mainly in Norway and Kenya.

Fatma's art is figurative and representational covering various topics such as human life, nature, wildlife and conservation, fabric art, printing and patterns. She has worked in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional techniques. Her recent paintings portray the Swahili people and their culture.

As a teenager Fatma attended Lamu Polytechnic School learning how to sew clothes. She attended afternoon hobby groups learning how to knit. Later she moved to Nairobi and studied at Nairobi Polytechnic where she attained a diploma in sewing. Her mother taught her how to decorate flowers, so her passion for creative work started at a young age.

Fatma went on to study in Oslo, Norway where she attained bachelor's degree in aesthetic subjects. She has been teaching art



in primary and secondary schools in Oslo. She worked on a pilot project at Strommen art centre passing on art to primary schools in Akerhus Fylke.



Fatma worked for NORAD in Tanzania and Machakos in Kenya. In both countries she enjoys giving back to the community by using her talent for capacity building among women groups. Fatma loves painting concepts inspired by Africa, especially women in their daily activities. Through her art she strives to show a different wider side of Africa and its rich cultures.

## **NMK Announcement: call for involvement**

### **HELP MONITOR MAMMALS IN KENYA!**

#### **Mammalogy Section-National Museums of Kenya**

The Mammals Atlas for Kenya (MAKE) project gives you a chance to contribute to science. The distribution of different mammal species in Kenya is not well known. Information about the existence of different species in many places in and outside protected areas is scattered in different publications, online databases and personal field notebooks. Hence there is need to consolidate this data into a single database and produce up to date distribution maps for different species of mammals.

To do this, the Mammalogy Section staff and other members of the Mammal Committee of Nature Kenya would like you to assist in the citizen science mapping of the distribution of mammal species in Kenya. You can do this by contributing the following information:

1. List of identified wild mammals of all species in places you visit (in and outside protected areas) while on a game drive or while birding anywhere
2. Provide names of the places where you recorded the mammal species
3. Provide GPS coordinates, if you have them, for the places where you recorded the mammals. If you have no GPS go to Google play on your phone and download the Handy GPS (12MB) free location app and install it in your phone for coordinates of

places you visit (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details...>)

4. If you cannot identify a particular mammal but have a photo, send the photo

**MAKE Project Opportunities:** We are also looking for volunteers to assist in compiling mammal species information from all protected areas in Kenya managed by Kenya Wildlife Service and Kenya Forest Service, as well as all private and community ranches. Volunteers are also needed to compile mammal species information scattered in existing publications on mammals from Kenya, either from online publications or in library journals and reports. More volunteers are needed to fundraise for the establishment of a mobile based online volunteer mammal sightings reporting tool for MAKE.

For enquiries about MAKE project volunteer opportunities or on how to send mammal observations, or to get an electronic version of the Annotated Checklist of the Mammals of Kenya, kindly contact:

**Simon Musila** - [surnbirds@gmail.com](mailto:surnbirds@gmail.com) or [smusila@museums.or.ke](mailto:smusila@museums.or.ke)

**Mobile:** 0727-093737 or 0788-349227

### **News: “*Marine artefacts to be protected*”**

This headline in the *Star* of March 8<sup>th</sup> was over an item reporting that a regional ministerial conference is being organised by NMK with UNESCO and the Kenyan Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage, starting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup>. The theme is “Underwater Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Tourism Development in East Africa and the Adjacent Ocean Islands”. Other countries involved are Ethiopia, Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique, Tanzania, Seychelles and Djibouti. Another report commented that “The conference comes in the backdrop when many of the African continent’s valuable heritage sites are under threat from uncontrolled development, coastal erosion and civil unrest.” (<http://www.kenyanews.go.ke/conference-on-underwater-cultural-heritage-kicks-off-in-malindi/>)

### **A new Cabinet Secretary!**

NMK come under the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage. Members will have read that there is a new Cabinet Secretary: Amina Mohammed, previously CS Education and before that Foreign Affairs. The media tend to refer to the Ministry as that of “Sports” only, a responsibility that will not doubt take a great deal of her time, but we hope she will find some to focus on the Heritage aspect.

## The World of Museums

### Dar es Salaam

The National Museums of Tanzania combine five museums, two of which are in Dar es Salaam.

#### The National Museum

The National Museum was established in 1934, but its oldest extant building seems to have been built in 1940. There is a more modern, much larger building in front of the old one. There, as in Nairobi and Addis Ababa (see the *Tracker* for December 2018/January 2019), there is a section on early man, foreign funded, with full explanations (albeit, and this is true of all, a tendency to use technical language that is likely to be a bit of barrier for many visitors). The Dar one is particularly well laid-out.



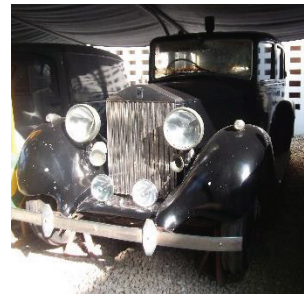
Cast of the famous Laetoli footprints



The rest of the museum is, to be frank, a little tired. But it has some gems including a splendid nineteenth century bed from Kilwa, the propeller from the first plane to try to fly from Cairo to the Cape (it crashed at



Tabora), and a wonderful row of cars, used by colonial or early independence figures.



## *The Village Museum*

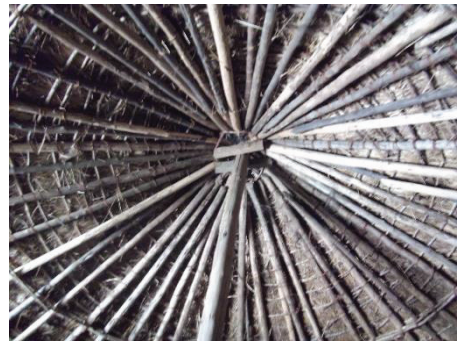


You will find various household items on display, in the internal gloom (hard to adjust to, coming from the bright sun).



Dar has its equivalent of the Bomas of Kenya: various traditional dwellings. However, while the Bomas has regular, hour-long shows of dancing, the Dar Museum will put on a performance in demand for a smallish fee.

Perhaps the nicest feature is the beauty of the traditional housing forms with their varied, often curvaceous, shapes.



Admission for each museum is about \$10 for non-citizens of East Africa, and the very reasonable TzShs1,500 (about KShs 65) for citizens.

### **TRACKER ADVERTISING RATES**

|                         | <b>BLACK AND WHITE</b> |                     | <b>COLOURED</b> |                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>SIZE</b>             | <b>MEMBERS</b>         | <b>NON MEMBER S</b> | <b>MEMBERS</b>  | <b>NON MEMBERS</b> |
| <b>Back page</b>        | Ksh 3,500              | Ksh 4,000           | Ksh 9,000       | KSh 9,500          |
| <b>Inside full page</b> | Ksh 2,500              | Ksh 3,000           | Ksh 9,000       | Ksh 9,000          |
| <b>Half page</b>        | Ksh 1,000              | Ksh 1,500           | Ksh 5,000       | Ksh 5,500          |
| <b>Quarter page</b>     | Ksh 700                | Ksh 800             | Ksh 3,000       | Ksh 3,500          |

|                         | <b>ONLINE</b>    |                     | <b>CLASSIFIED LISTINGS</b> |                 |                    |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>SIZE</b>             | <b>MEMBERS</b>   | <b>NON-MEMBER S</b> | <b>WORD S</b>              | <b>MEMBER S</b> | <b>NON-MEMBERS</b> |
| <b>Back page</b>        | <b>Ksh 4,000</b> | <b>Ksh4,500</b>     | <b>Up to 25</b>            | <b>Ksh 250</b>  | <b>Ksh 350</b>     |
| <b>Inside full page</b> | <b>Ksh 3,000</b> | <b>Ksh 3,500</b>    | <b>25 to 50</b>            | <b>Ksh 500</b>  | <b>Ksh 550</b>     |
| <b>Half page</b>        | <b>Ksh 2,000</b> | <b>Ksh 2,500</b>    |                            |                 |                    |
| <b>Quarter page</b>     | <b>Ksh 1,000</b> | <b>Ksh 1,500</b>    |                            |                 |                    |

#### **CONDITIONS:**

1. This service is available to ALL.
2. Advertisements must be emailed to or dropped at the KMS office during office hours with payment.
3. All adverts should be in PDF format
4. Deadline for a month's Tracker is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the previous month.

KMS: Tel: 0724 255299/2339158 OR [info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org)

| OVERALL CALENDAR OF KMS/NMK ACTIVITIES FOR 2019 (# means fuller details in this issue)                                              |                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                               |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| January                                                                                                                             | February                                                                                        | March                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | April                                                                                                         |  |
|                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Talk Sivani Bhalla @ MCC<br>80-31 <sup>st</sup> Swahili and their Culture Exhibition#<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Hellsgate trip#<br>16 – 19 <sup>th</sup> Museum closed<br>17-22 <sup>nd</sup> Western Kenya trip<br>30 <sup>th</sup> Jain Temple Tour<br>28 - April 5 <sup>th</sup> Ornithology course @ Elsamere | 13 <sup>th</sup> Talk by Dr. Mary Gikungu @Muthaiga Country Club#<br>27 <sup>th</sup> Karura Forest day trip# |  |
| <b>May</b><br>1-5 <sup>th</sup> Tugen and Cherangani Hills trip#<br>8 <sup>th</sup> AGM of KMS#<br>24 – 26 <sup>th</sup> Masai Mara | <b>June</b><br>8-16 <sup>th</sup> Turkana trip#<br>Affordable Art Show committee meetings begin | <b>July</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>August</b>                                                                                                 |  |
| <b>September</b>                                                                                                                    | <b>October</b><br>25-7 <sup>th</sup> KMS Affordable Art Show                                    | <b>November</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>December</b>                                                                                               |  |

## **Kenya Museum Society's Mission, Benefits & Annual Rates**

Kenya Museum Society is a non-profit members' organization founded in 1970. Our mission is to support and promote the National Museums of Kenya, the custodian of Kenya's natural and cultural heritage that manages six World Heritage Sites, twenty-two museums and over a hundred sites and monuments across the country.

### **Membership**

By supporting KMS with your membership, you are helping to preserve and promote Kenyan history, culture and artifacts. At the same time you'll have fun learning about Kenya in the company of people who enjoy the same interests as you.

#### **Become a KMS member and enjoy:**

- o Free entry to all National and regional Museums, prehistoric sites and monuments in Kenya
- o Bird walk with Nature Kenya at Ksh 200, reduced rates on tree walks with FoNA, day and weekend outings, evening lectures, films and other programs for members
- o Entry to the Ololua Nature Trail at half price
- o Monthly newsletter *Tracker* to keep you abreast of KMS and Museum activities
- o Email updates on KMS and Museum activities
- o Annual magazine *Kenya Past and Present*
- o 5% discount on books in the KMS Shop at Nairobi National Museum
- o Free borrowing privileges at KMS library
- o Free reading privileges at Nature Kenya/NMK library
- o Reduced advertising rates in the Tracker & Kenya Past and Present

|                                     |           |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Single resident                     | KSH 1,750 | One membership card             |
| Family resident                     | Ksh 2,500 | Including children below 18 Yrs |
| Students (Kenyan Resident)          | Ksh 300   | One membership card             |
| Up Country (New Category)           | Ksh 1,200 | One membership card             |
| Non Resident                        | USD 50    | One card                        |
| Visitors (valid for one month only) | Ksh 800   | One membership card             |
| Business Membership (Kenya)         | Ksh 6,000 | Eight membership cards          |

**Contacts:** [info@kenyamuseumsociety.org](mailto:info@kenyamuseumsociety.org) OR 0724 – 255 299 and 2339158  
[www.kenyamuseumsociety.org](http://www.kenyamuseumsociety.org)

## KMS Membership Registration Form

**Please use BLOCK letters**

*Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr/Prof (please circle)*

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Children (under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MEMBER/RENEWING MEMBER (please circle)**

**Please send *Tracker* by EMAIL/POST (please circle)**

(Below for Office Use Only)

*Receipt No:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership Nos:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Amt. Paid* \_\_\_\_\_ *Cash/Mpesa/Visa/Cheque* \_\_\_\_\_

*Cheque No:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Bank:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Processed by* \_\_\_\_\_ *Added to Database by* \_\_\_\_\_